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parts of it are reproduced in the body of the work with no hint, apparently, as to its real position in law. Balance and proportion in such a work are, however, largely a matter of individual opinion. The book may be recommended as a careful and usually judicious elementary text.

J. S. R.

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW ANNOTATED. With Reference to the English Bills of Exchange Act and with the Cases under the Negotiable Instruments Law and the Bills of Exchange Act and Comments thereon. By Joseph Doddridge Brannan, Bussey Professor of Law in Harvard University, together with Comments and Criticisms on the Negotiable Instruments Law by James Barr Ames (Dean of the Harvard Law School), Judge Lyman D. Brewster (Formerly President of the State Boards of Commissioners for Promoting Uniformity of Legislation), and Charles L. McKeehan, Esq., (Formerly Lecturer on the Law of Bills and Notes in the University of Pennsylvania). Second Edition. Revised—Re-arranged—Enlarged. Cincinnati: The W. H. Anderson Company, 1911, pp. xxxiv, 330.

This work furnishes in small compass a great deal of valuable information about The Negotiable Instruments Law, information almost indispensable to the ordinary practitioner, who is without access to large libraries, and who may have occasion to know how the various sections of the law have been construed.

The author has used as the standard of comparison and comment The Negotiable Instruments Law in the form recommended by the National Conference of State Boards of Commissioners.

He has indicated under each section whatever change, amendment or addition each of the thirty-eight states and territories, which have adopted The Negotiable Instruments Law, has made. By this plan of treatment the reader is enabled to ascertain at small expense of time the exact provisions of The Negotiable Instruments Law as enacted in each state and territory. The author has also drawn the contrast between The Negotiable Instruments Law and the English Bills of Exchange Act on which it was based in substance and in form. He has given, in connection with each section, the construction of the statute and of the corresponding provision of the Bills of Exchange Act. He has made a part of his work the comments and criticisms upon the law made by Dean Ames, and the defence of the law by Judge Brewster, one of the committee who had the preparation of the law in charge, in the somewhat famous controversy known to the profession as the "Ames-Brewster Controversy."

He has also made a part of his work the review of that controversy by Charles L. McKeehan, sometime Lecturer on the Law of Bills and Notes in the University of Pennsylvania. He also sets out the provisions of the Bills of Exchange Act which were not followed or adopted by The Negotiable Instruments Law. And so it is that the practitioner or student can determine from this book, within a comparatively short time, the exact pro-

visions of The Negotiable Instruments Law as enacted in the several states and territories, the construction of the various sections of that statute, the Bills of Exchange Act and the construction of the various sections of it, so far as these statutes have been respectively passed upon.

It strikes the writer that one very important feature of this work is its time-saving quality. To the busy lawyer engaged in the practice of matters arising out of this statute the book will be found almost indispensable. Another important and time-saving feature of the work is the table of corresponding sections of the law in the various states and territories. The practitioner who has the original act before him, or the act adopted in any one of the states or territories may, by turning to the table, ascertain at a glance the corresponding section in any of the other states or territories.

The book mentioned in the caption cannot be regarded otherwise than a valuable aid to any practitioner or student who has occasion to acquaint himself with the subject of The Negotiable Instruments Law, and I commend it as such.

R. E. B.

A LAW DICTIONARY.—Containing Definitions of the Terms and Phrases of American and English Juridprudence, Ancient and Modern. By Henry Campbell Black, M.A., Author of Treatises on Judgments, Tax Titles, Intoxicating Liquors, Bankruptcy, Mortgages, Constitutional Law, Interpretation of Laws, etc., Second Edition. St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1910, pp. vi, 1314.

The second edition of this very useful one volume law dictionary retains the excellence of its predecessor, published twenty years ago, and has a number of new and valuable features. There are many additional citations of decided cases in which legal terms have been judicially defined. Large additions have been made in the field of medical jurisprudence, which deserves especial attention from the dictionary makers because of recent great advances in medical science and the skillful elaboration of its terminology by those engaged in research work on the border lands of the subject. Although these additions have increased the content of the work, the book is not much larger than it was before revision, indeed the actual number of pages of the body of the second edition is a few less than in the first edition. This reduction in bulk has been brought about by a skillful typographical readjustment, which involves grouping all compound and descriptive terms and phrases under the main head or title from which they are radically derived. The judicial definitions and the compound terms are printed in smaller type than the body of the text but this helps rather than hinders the convenient use of the book, as the subordination of these points to the main definitions appears at a glance. The thumb index and marginal index by letters and an appendix of seventy-six pages containing a very full table of abbreviations will add not a little to the usefulness of the book.